into a few thousand and that these papers are running in huge losses; and

(b) if so, what is the actual Circulation of these news papers in various cities, from where their editions are being published stating the manner in which the losses are being met and the steps contemplated to minimise the losses?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Details of circulation are given in Statement (*See* below) it is not possible to indicate the losses of newspapers as no such information is maintained.

Statement

As per information available in the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India the circulation details for the year **1989-90**, *as accepted by the Registrar of Newspapers for India for the purpose of allocation of News print.*

Name of the Newspaper	Average circulation per publishing day during 1989-90.
1. Qaumi Awaz, Urdu daily, Delhi	27,186
2. Qaumi Awaz, Urdu Daily, Lucknow	29.052
3. Qaumi Awaz, Urdudaily, Patna	17,239
4. Navjiwan, Hindi daily, Lucknow	19,317
5. National Herald, English daily, Lucknow	34,828
6. National Herald, English daily, Delhi	37,941

Purchasing of new offset printing Machine and itek Machine by M/s. Associate Journals Ltd.

2324. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a New Offset Printing Machine and Itek Machine was purchased by M/s. Associate Journals Ltd. from the U.S.A. worth several lakhs; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the cost involved and the source from which the funds were received to meet the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recepit of money by M/s. Associate Jonrnals Ltd. from M/s. Ambanis, etc.

2325. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Associate Journals Ltd., received rupees seven crores from M/s Ambanis and rupees three crores from Shri Amitabh Bachchan, to meet the Government dues on account of E. S. I. , provident Fund Salary and gratuity of their Employees at Delhi Bhopal, Madras, Bombay and Lucknow; and

(b) if not, what are the sources from which the heavy dues were paid during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b) As per balance sheet of the Company the expenditure on salary & wages, E. S. I., provident Fund, Gratuity, Bonus and Staff Welfare expenses etc. of M/s Associated Journals Ltd. in all its offices are as follows:—

Year ended	Amount in crores
31-3-1986	1.42
31-3-1987	1.30
31-3-1988	1.73
31-3-1989	2.47

The secured, unsecured loans and deferred credits availed by of the company are as follows:—

Year ended	Amount in crores
31-3-1986	3.59
31-3-1987	3.56
31-3-1988	3.39
31-3-1989	3.93

Arrest of Swami Saroopanand Saraswati

2326. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Shankaracharya of Dwarka and Jyotir peeths, Swami, Saroopanand Saraswati and his followeres had been arrested on 30th April, 1990 in Phulpur, Azamgarh District;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether other religious leaders of different communities would also be arrested on similar grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) "Public Order" and "Maintenance of communal harmony" is a State Subject. According to a report received from the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Swami Saroopanand Saraswati, the Shankaracharya of Dwarka Peeth and his 11 followers were arrested in order to prevent breach of peace and communal harmony in view of his proposed "Shilanyas" Ceremony of the Ram Janam Bhoomi Temple on May 7,1990 at Ayodhya in Violation of the restraint order of the Hon'ble Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court regarding maintaining the *status quo* of disputed shrine.

(c) The authorities of the State charged with the responsibility of maintaining "Public Order" and Rule of Law are duty bound to proceed against any person whose activities may be prejudicial of "Public Order and Communal harmony".

Development of Minor Ports

2327. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central assistance is being given for the development of minor ports in the country ;

(b) if so, the amount provided by the Government during the Seventh